



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Amendment

LCO No. 4021

Offered by:

SEN. HANDLEY, 4th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 395

File No. 493

Cal. No. 349

"An Act Concerning State-Funded Assistance To Legal Immigrants."

1 Strike out everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 17b-112c of the general statutes, as amended by
4 section 9 of public act 99-279, is repealed and the following is
5 substituted in lieu thereof:

6 (a) Qualified aliens, as defined in Section 431 of Public Law 104-193,
7 [admitted into the United States prior to August 22, 1996,] who do not
8 qualify for federally-funded cash assistance, other lawfully residing
9 immigrant aliens or aliens who formerly held the status of
10 permanently residing under color of law shall be eligible for solely
11 state-funded temporary family assistance, [or] assistance under the
12 federal waiver for the demonstration program entitled "Reach for Jobs
13 First" or cash assistance under the state-administered general
14 assistance program, provided other conditions of eligibility are met. [A
15 qualified alien admitted into the United States on or after August 22,
16 1996, and not determined eligible for assistance prior to July 1, 1997,

17 shall be eligible for temporary family assistance subsequent to five
18 years from the date admitted, except if the individual is otherwise
19 qualified for the purpose of state receipt of federal financial
20 participation under Title IV of Public Law 104-93, such individual shall
21 be eligible for temporary family assistance regardless of the date
22 admitted. Such a qualified alien] An individual who is granted
23 assistance under this section must pursue citizenship to the maximum
24 extent allowed by law as a condition of eligibility [for the temporary
25 family assistance program] unless incapable of doing so due to a
26 medical problem, language barrier or other reason as determined by
27 the Commissioner of Social Services. Notwithstanding the provisions
28 of this section, any qualified alien or other lawfully residing immigrant
29 alien or alien who formerly held the status of permanently residing
30 under color of law who is a victim of domestic violence or who has
31 mental retardation shall be eligible for [temporary family] assistance
32 under this section.

33 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section:
34 (1) A qualified alien admitted into the United States on or after August
35 22, 1996, or other lawfully residing immigrant alien determined
36 eligible for temporary family assistance or cash assistance under the
37 state-administered general assistance program prior to July 1, 1997, or
38 other lawfully residing immigrant alien or alien who formerly held the
39 status of permanently residing under color of law, shall remain eligible
40 for such assistance until July 1, 2001, and (2) a qualified alien, [or] other
41 lawfully residing immigrant alien admitted into the United States on
42 or after August 22, 1996, other lawfully residing immigrant alien or an
43 alien who formerly held the status of permanently residing under
44 color of law and not determined eligible prior to July 1, 1997, shall be
45 eligible for such assistance subsequent to six months from establishing
46 residency in this state until July 1, 2001; except if the individual is
47 otherwise qualified for the purpose of state receipt of federal financial
48 participation, [under Title IV of Public Law 104-93, such individual
49 shall be eligible for temporary family assistance regardless of the date
50 admitted or the date determined eligible.]

51 Sec. 2. Subsection (e) of section 17b-116 of the general statutes, as
52 amended by section 10 of public act 99-279, is repealed and the
53 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

54 (e) Persons domiciled and residing in Connecticut or who have no
55 other residence, and who are United States citizens or who have been
56 admitted as qualified aliens, as defined in Section 431 of Public Law
57 104-193, into the United States prior to August 22, 1996, or other
58 lawfully residing immigrant aliens or aliens who formerly held the
59 status of permanently residing under color of law shall be eligible for
60 support under the general assistance program. A qualified alien
61 admitted into the United States on or after August 22, 1996, or other
62 lawfully residing immigrant alien determined eligible for general
63 assistance prior to July 1, 1997, shall remain eligible for such assistance
64 until July 1, 2001. Qualified aliens or other lawfully residing immigrant
65 aliens admitted into the United States on or after August 22, 1996, and
66 not determined eligible for assistance prior to July 1, 1997, shall be
67 eligible for such assistance subsequent to six months from establishing
68 residency in this state until July 1, 2001. Qualified aliens must pursue
69 citizenship to the maximum extent allowed by law as a condition of
70 eligibility for the general assistance program unless incapable of doing
71 so due to a medical problem, language barrier or other reason as
72 determined by the Commissioner of Social Services. Notwithstanding
73 the provisions of this subsection, any qualified alien or other lawfully
74 residing immigrant alien or alien who formerly held the status of
75 permanently residing under color of law who is a victim of domestic
76 violence or who has mental retardation shall be eligible for general
77 assistance.

78 Sec. 3. Section 17b-257b of the general statutes, as amended by
79 section 11 of public act 99-279, is repealed and the following is
80 substituted in lieu thereof:

81 Qualified aliens, as defined in Section 431 of Public Law 104-193,
82 admitted into the United States on or after August 22, 1996, [or] other
83 lawfully residing immigrant aliens or aliens who formerly held the

84 status of permanently residing under color of law who have been
85 determined eligible for Medicaid or for state-administered general
86 assistance medical aid prior to July 1, 1997, may be eligible until July 1,
87 2001, for state-funded medical assistance which shall provide coverage
88 to the same extent as the Medicaid program, state-administered
89 general assistance medical aid or the HUSKY Plan, Part B provided
90 other conditions of eligibility are met. Such qualified aliens or lawfully
91 residing immigrant aliens or aliens who formerly held the status of
92 permanently residing under color of law who have not been
93 determined eligible for Medicaid or for state-administered general
94 assistance medical aid prior to July 1, 1997, shall be eligible for state-
95 funded assistance or the HUSKY Plan, Part B subsequent to six months
96 from establishing residency in this state until July 1, 2001.
97 Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any qualified alien or
98 other lawfully residing immigrant alien or alien who formerly held the
99 status of permanently residing under color of law who is a victim of
100 domestic violence or who has mental retardation shall be eligible for
101 state-funded assistance or the HUSKY Plan, Part B pursuant to this
102 section. Only individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid shall be
103 eligible for state-funded assistance pursuant to this section.

104 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 17b-342 of the general statutes, as
105 amended by section 12 of public act 99-279, is repealed and the
106 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

107 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall administer the
108 Connecticut home-care program for the elderly state-wide in order to
109 prevent the institutionalization of elderly persons (1) who are
110 recipients of medical assistance, (2) who are eligible for such
111 assistance, or (3) who meet the criteria for the state-funded portion of
112 the program under subsection (i) of this section. For purposes of this
113 section, a long-term care facility is a facility which has been federally
114 certified as a skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility. The
115 commissioner shall make any revisions in the state Medicaid plan
116 required by Title XIX of the Social Security Act prior to implementing
117 the program. The annualized cost of the community-based services

118 provided to such persons under the program shall not exceed sixty per
119 cent of the weighted average cost of care in skilled nursing facilities
120 and intermediate care facilities. The program shall be structured so
121 that the net cost to the state for long-term facility care in combination
122 with the community-based services under the program shall not
123 exceed the net cost the state would have incurred without the
124 program. The commissioner shall investigate the possibility of
125 receiving federal funds for the program and shall apply for any
126 necessary federal waivers. A recipient of services under the program,
127 and the estate and legally liable relatives of the recipient, shall be
128 responsible for reimbursement to the state for such services to the
129 same extent required of a recipient of assistance under the state
130 supplement program, medical assistance program, temporary family
131 assistance program or food stamps program. Only a United States
132 citizen or a noncitizen who meets the citizenship requirements for
133 eligibility under the Medicaid program shall be eligible for home-care
134 services under this section, except a qualified alien, as defined in
135 Section 431 of Public Law 104-193, admitted into the United States on
136 or after August 22, 1996, or other lawfully residing immigrant alien
137 determined eligible for services under this section prior to July 1, 1997,
138 shall remain eligible for such services until July 1, 2001. Qualified
139 aliens or other lawfully residing immigrant aliens not determined
140 eligible prior to July 1, 1997, shall be eligible for services under this
141 section subsequent to six months from establishing residency until July
142 1, 2001. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, any
143 qualified alien or other lawfully residing immigrant alien or alien who
144 formerly held the status of permanently residing under color of law
145 who is a victim of domestic violence or who has mental retardation
146 shall be eligible for assistance pursuant to this section. Qualified aliens,
147 as defined in Section 431 of Public Law 104-193, or other lawfully
148 residing immigrant aliens or aliens who formerly held the status of
149 permanently residing under color of law shall be eligible for services
150 under this section provided other conditions of eligibility are met.

151 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000."